

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for transferring data between a wide area network and a computer system located on a local area network, comprising:

receiving data from a content provider via the wide area network at a routing device that is connected to both the wide area network and the local area network, wherein the data is destined for the computer system located on the local area network;

the routing device receiving a signal, separate from the received data, indicating that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a minimum quality of service(QoS);

the routing device initiating a QoS session between the routing device and the computer system in response to receiving the signal; and

the routing device sending the data to the computer system in accordance with the minimum QoS.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

the routing device receiving a request for the data to be sent from the content provider to the computer system; and

the routing device embedding priority information in the data, wherein the priority information signals that the data is to be delivered to the computer system at a rate higher than the minimum QoS.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

the routing device placing packets containing the data to be sent to the computer system in a high priority queue; and

the routing device transmitting the packets in the high priority queue before transmitting packets in corresponding low priority queues.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
the routing device formatting packets that contain the data to indicate that the data is to be transmitted in accordance with the minimum QoS, wherein said formatting further comprises inserting priority information into headers associated with the packets, wherein packets having headers with high priority information are transmitted before packets having headers with low priority information.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the received signal indicates that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a rate higher than a specified minimum rate.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A routing device configured to transfer data between a wide area network and a computer system located on a local area network, the routing device comprising:
a memory having program instructions stored therein that are executable by the routing device to:
receive data from a content provider via the wide area network, wherein the data is destined for the computer system;
receive a signal, separate from the received data, indicating that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a minimum quality of service(QoS);
initiate a QoS session between the routing device and the computer system in response to receiving the signal; and
send the data to the computer system in accordance with the minimum QoS.
9. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 8, wherein the wide area network is a circuit-switched or public switched telephone network infrastructure.

10. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 9, wherein the signal is received from a network control system server, and wherein the routing device is configured to participate in a separate QoS session between the content provider and the routing device through the wide area network based on the minimum QoS.

11. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 8, wherein the wide area network is a circuit-switched or packet-switched network infrastructure.

12. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 11, wherein the signal is received from a network control system server, and wherein the routing device is configured to participate in a separate QoS session between the content provider and the routing device through the wide area network based on the minimum QoS.

13.-29. (Canceled)